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29 May 2026

Aly Cook

By email: alycookpr@gmail.com
Ref: H2026082262

Tēnā koe Aly

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to the Ministry of Health – Manatū Hauora (the Ministry) on 1 May 2026. You requested:

“Can you please provide a list of who was at this meeting, which ministers and health officials were present at the vaccine ministers meeting which took place on Zoom on the 13th of August, 2021 ?

The following Ministers were present at the meeting:

- Chair: Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister for COVID-19 Response
- Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister
- Hon Grant Robertson, Minister of Finance; Minister of Infrastructure
- Hon Andrew Little, Minister of Health
- Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall, Associate Minister of Health
- Hon Aupito William Sio, Associate Minister of Health
- Hon Peeni Henare, Associate Minister of Health

Officials from the Ministry of Health including the Director-General, the (then) COVID-19 Directorate, and the leads from the Vaccine Programme and Medsafe were also present.

Can you also provide any notes or correspondence relating to the vaccine ministers meeting which took place on Zoom on the 13th of August, 2021 ?

As noted in our previous response (H2026081438 refers), this meeting was not minuted. In addition, no notes exist that relate to this meeting. Therefore, this part of your request is refused under section 18(g)(i) of the Act, as the information requested is not held by the Ministry and there are no grounds for believing it is held by another agency subject to the Act.

In order to satisfy the remainder of your request, we have conducted parameter-based searches across the Ministry's systems:

Can you also provide any notes or email correspondence between any of the 'Vaccine ministers' including Jacinda Ardern, Chris Hipkins, Aesha Verral, Andrew Little, Grant Robertson or from and too any health official that mentions the word 'myocarditis' and/or mentions this meeting of the vaccine ministers meeting which took place on Zoom on the 13th of August, 2021 for the 4 days either side of the meeting?

An excerpt from a report to the Vaccine Ministers dated 19 August 2021 has been identified in scope of your request, provided in accordance with section 16(1)(e) of the Act.

Can you please give any correspondence between ministers and health official including the director general of health and TAG Chair Ian Town that mentions the words "2 Shots for summer" or "Two Shots for Summer" or "advertising campaign" for the 4 days either side of the 13th of August 2021 Meeting, including inward and outward correspondence of Jacinda Ardern, Chris Hipkins, Aesha Verral, Andrew Little, Grant Robertson, Peeni Henare, Ashley Bloomfield, ?

A copy of a communications and engagement update provided to the Vaccine Ministers ahead of the meeting on 13 August that describes some of the ongoing campaigns at that time is provided in accordance with section 16(1)(e) of the Act. Note that no information was identified that included the term "two shots", "2 shots", or "advertising" in the period requested, however, we have included this excerpt anyway as it appears to be relevant to your interests.

Please please also provide correspondence from and to Jacinda Ardern, Chris Hipkins, Aesha Verral, Andrew Little, Grant Robertson, Peeni Henare, Ashley Bloomfield that mentions the word 'Rangitahi' and is correspondence in the 4 days either side of the 13th of August Vaccine ministers meeting ?"

We have assumed, given the context of your request, that you intended to request the term 'rangatahi', meaning youth. The Ministry has not identified any relevant correspondence in the specified period from, to or between the specified parties. Therefore, this part of your request is refused under section 18(g)(i) of the Act, as the information requested is not held by the Ministry and there are no grounds for believing it is held by another agency subject to the Act.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision, please feel free to contact the OIA Services Team on: oiagr@health.govt.nz.

Under section 28(3) of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests.

Nāku noa, nā



Dr Andrew Old
Deputy Director-General
Public Health Agency | Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui